



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **District Man Sentenced in Fatal Crash that Killed 2-year-old**

**Washington, D.C.** - Christopher Henry Edwards, 26, of the District of Columbia was sentenced on August 28, to a total of 17 years in prison by Judge Michael Rankin in D.C. Superior Court after pleading guilty to one count of involuntary manslaughter and two counts of aggravated assault, Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips announced today. The charges arose as a result of a fatal motor vehicle crash that occurred on October 21, 2007.

At approximately 3:10 a.m. on October 21, 2007, the defendant was driving a 2000 Chevrolet Monte Carlo northbound on Sherman Avenue, N.W., near its intersection with Columbia Road, N.W. Driving at a high rate of speed and fleeing from a traffic stop that occurred only a minute or two before, the defendant ran a red light and broadsided a 2000 Plymouth Neon driven by Alycia Worsley. As a result of the crash, a two-year-old passenger in the Neon was killed, and three other passengers were injured, two critically. After the accident, the defendant got out of the Monte Carlo and fled on foot.

Minutes before the accident, Officer Alfredo Cruz of the Metropolitan Police Department was on patrol in the 2100 block of Georgia Avenue, N.W. when he observed a two-door green automobile being driven by a black male who was driving with his head sticking out of the sunroof. The man appeared to be driving the car with his leg. When Officer Cruz attempted to make a traffic stop, the green car made a U-turn in front of him, and the driver looked directly at him and smiled. After the U-turn, the green car came to a stop. The driver again looked directly at the officer, smiled, and pulled off at a high rate of speed. Officer Cruz radioed a lookout but did not follow the car. A short time later, Officer Cruz was flagged down by a civilian who told him that there was a man in a green car who was going to "kill somebody." Officer Cruz then made a U-turn to look for the car. As he was making the U-turn he heard a broadcast from a police helicopter that there was a serious crash on Sherman Avenue, N.W. Officer Cruz arrived on the scene after the driver of the green car had fled but he did confirm that it was the same car he had previously seen. He later identified the driver from a photo array.

Detective Sheryl Harley of the Major Crash Investigation Unit was able to ascertain that the defendant's car was traveling at a minimum speed of sixty miles per hour when he crashed into the Neon. Subsequent testing of the Monte Carlo's airbags confirmed that the DNA on the airbags matched that of the defendant.

In announcing the sentence, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips praised the investigative efforts of Lead Detective Sheryl Harley of the Major Crash Investigation Unit, Officers Alfred Cruz, James Tyler, Rahmann Garrett and Detective Antonio Duncan, Technicians Romanz Haight and Carmen Pagan of the Metropolitan Police Forensic Service Division, Officer Luis Machicotte and Detective David Gurry of the Prince Georges County Police Department, victim advocate Marcy Rinker of the U.S. Attorney's Office, Paralegal Specialist Sandra Lane and Assistant United States Attorney John J. Soroka of the Homicide Section, who prosecuted the case.

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